GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:39
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
COMPLETION OF GOLDEN QUADRILATERAL PROJECT
RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Golden Quadrilateral Project may miss deadline` appearing in the `Hindu` dated January 7, 2003`

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(MAJOR GENERAL (R B.C.KHANDURI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 39 FOR ANSWE 19TH FEBRUARY, 2003, ASKED BY SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR REGARDING COMPLETION OF GOLDEN QUADRILA PROJECT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As given in the Annex to this statement.

ANNEX

ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 39 FOR ANSWER ON FEBRUARY, 2003, ASKED BY SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR REGARDING COMPLETION OF GOLDEN QUADRILA PROJECT.

Sl. No.	Facts of the matter reported	Reaction of the Government.

1. The Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) road project is likely to miss the completion target of December, 2004 by a year as over 40 per cent of contracts were awarded after July, 2001, accordingly to CRIS-INFAC report.The target for completion of GQ is December, 2004. Although around 40% of the contracts were awarded after July 2001, most of the project on GQ are likely to be completed by December, 2004. Many of these are expected to be completed before this date. However a few projects, such as, Himmatnagar-Chiloda, on NH-8 and Allahabad Bypass on NH-2 may not be completed by this date because contracts for these projects could not be awarded due to litigation problems and procedural requirements of external lending agencies.

2. Similarly, the North-South and East-West Corridor highway project, for which funding plan is yet to be approved by the Cabinet Committee, could also be delayed beyond its scheduled completion date of 2007, the report said. The original target for completion of North-South & East-West Corridors was December, 2009 which has been advanced to December, 2007.A programme has been drawn for its implementation and completion by December, 2007.

3. The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is implementing the project plans efficiently and `given the magnitude of the task, delays to a certain extent are reasonable`, the report said, adding its ability to service debt and contractual obligation for payment of contractors and annuity is comfortable. No comments.

4. CRIS-INFAC said the road network programme has provided significant employment to the migrant workforce and provided a fillip to the construction sector and other industries. It is estimated that National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase-I would generate employment equivalent to 18 crore mandays. It is also estimated that the annual average requirement of cement and steel due to construction of NHDP during the period 2001-2004 would be 3-4 Million Metric tonne, and 0.3 Million Metric tonne respectively.

Impact is also being felt in the equipment manufacturing industry and the vehicle manufacturing Industry.

5. There is a need to encourage greater private sector participation and develop an active secondary market by securitising the receivables to ensure broad based participation. The broad based participation of private sector has been achieved mainly on account of initiatives taken by the Government.